



Committee on Finance

May 30, 2007 – 6:55 pm – **Minutes**
City Council Chamber, Room 214 – Municipal Building

View Agenda

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PRESENT: COUNCILLORS JOHN SAUNDERS, CHAIRMAN; LINDA MORAD, VICE-CHAIRPERSON (7:10); DAVID ALVES (7:05); DEBORA COELHO; JOE DEMEDEIROS; BRIAN GOMES; JANE GONSALVES; LEO PIMENTAL

ABSENT: COUNCILLORS PAUL KOCAERA; DENIS LAWRENCE, JR.; VIOLA PINA

ALSO PRESENT:

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Councillor Saunders called the Finance Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. Councillor Saunders informed the Committee that Councillors Koczera and Pina have sent in letters stating they are unable to attend the meeting due to prior commitments, and Councillor Lawrence would probably be late in attending the meeting. These communications were received and placed on file.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang to the City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$5,300.00 from the DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES, CHARGES & SERVICES to ZOO, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS (Ref'd 3/22/07, tabled 4/23/07) was removed from the table.

Lou Garibaldi, Zoo Director was present and answered questions. Mr. Garibaldi explained that the supplies budget was over, due to increased attendance at the Zoo, vehicle repairs and medical bills.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$5,300.00 from the DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES, CHARGES & SERVICES to ZOO, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$7,300.00 from HEALTH DEPARTMENT, CHARGES & SERVICES to ZOO, CAPITAL OUTLAY (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$7,300.00 from HEALTH DEPARTMENT, CHARGES & SERVICES to ZOO, CAPITAL OUTLAY. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$2,500.00 from HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SALARIES & WAGES to ZOO, SALARIES & WAGES was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$2,500.00 from HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SALARIES & WAGES to ZOO, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$10,000.00 from CEMETERY, CHARGES & SERVICES to CEMETERY, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$10,000.00 from CEMETERY, CHARGES & SERVICES to CEMETERY, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$12,400.00 from POLICE, CHARGES & SERVICES to POLICE, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS was received and placed on file.

Police Chief Ron Teachman was present, addressed the Committee and answered questions. The Chief responded that this budget was under funded from the very beginning of the fiscal year. Public Safety supplies included flashlights, bullets, firearm supplies, testing kits, etc.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$12,400.00 from POLICE, CHARGES & SERVICES to POLICE, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$22,000.00 from POLICE, CHARGES & SERVICES to POLICE, SALARIES & WAGES was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$22,000.00 from POLICE, CHARGES & SERVICES to POLICE, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$181,000.00 from PUBLIC FACILITIES, CHARGES & SERVICES to POLICE, SALARIES & WAGES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

Police Chief Ron Teachman was present, addressed the Committee and answered questions. The Chief was asked if this money was for overtime? Chief responded that it was, but that the overtime budget has been reduced this fiscal year over \$150,000 or \$3,000 per week compared to last fiscal year budget – despite increased wages and shift differential rates, and increased court time, which is related to increased arrests and other actions taken by the police department. Chief went on to say that he had, from the beginning of the fiscal year said that the overtime budget would not be adequate, even with saving as much as the department did this year.

Councillor Pimental asked the Chief if he could supply the Council (prior to the police department's next budget session) with how much money in fines the police department has issued for noise and speed violations in New Bedford this past year. Chief stated that he would do his best to get the Council that information.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$181,000.00 from PUBLIC FACILITIES, CHARGES & SERVICES to POLICE, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Councillor Saunders informed the Committee that items eight (8), nine (9), and ten (10) have been withdrawn by the Auditor as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$24,000.00 from FIRE, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS to FIRE, CHARGES & SERVICES. (Ref'd 5/10/07) ***THIS MATTER WAS WITHDRAWNBY THE CITY AUDITOR.***

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$25,000.00 from TREASURERS, SALARIES & WAGES to FIRE, CHARGES & SERVICES. (Ref'd 5/10/07) ***THIS MATTER WAS WITHDRAWNBY THE CITYAUDITOR.***

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$25,300.00 from DPI/HIGHWAYS, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS to FIRE, CHARGES & SERVICES. (Ref'd 5/24/07) ***THIS MATTER WAS WITHDRAWNBY THE CITYAUDITOR.***

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$25,000.00 from SOLICITORS, SALARIES & WAGES to FIRE, SALARIES & WAGES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$25,000.00 from SOLICITORS, SALARIES & WAGES to FIRE, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$6,600.00 from CITY COUNCIL, CHARGES & SERVICES to CITY CLERK, CAPITAL OUTLAY (Ref'd 5/10/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$6,600.00 from CITY COUNCIL, CHARGES & SERVICES to CITY CLERK, CAPITAL OUTLAY. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of an ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$50,000.00 from LIBRARY, CHARGES & SERVICES to LIBRARY, CAPITAL OUTLAY (Ref'd 4/26/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$50,000.00 from LIBRARY, CHARGES & SERVICES to LIBRARY, CAPITAL OUTLAY. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Councillor Saunders informed the Committee that item number fourteen (14) has been withdrawn as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$1200.00 from HEALTH, SALARIES & WAGES to HEALTH, CHARGES & SERVICES. (Ref'd 5/10/07) ***THIS MATTER WAS WITHDRAWNBY THE CITY AUDITOR.***

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$1,000.00 from ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, SALARIES & WAGES to AUDITORS, CHARGES & SERVICES (Ref'd 5/10/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER

for the TRANSFER of \$1,000.00 from ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, SALARIES & WAGES to AUDITORS, CHARGES & SERVICES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$1,000 from INSPECTIONAL SERVICES, CHARGES & SERVICES to ASSESSORS, CHARGES & SERVICES (Ref'd 5/10/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$1,000 from INSPECTIONAL SERVICES, CHARGES & SERVICES to ASSESSORS, CHARGES & SERVICES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$15,110.00 from INSPECTIONAL SERVICES, CHARGES & SERVICES to ASSESSORS, SALARIES & WAGES (Ref'd 5/10/07) was received and placed on file.

Ronald Durgin, Commissioner of Inspectional Services was present, addressed the Committee and answered questions. Councillor Alves asked how his department ended up with such a surplus, to which Mr. Durgin replied that it was due to a number of positions being vacant for much of the year.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$15,110.00 from INSPECTIONAL SERVICES, CHARGES & SERVICES to ASSESSORS, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$23,000.00 from LIBRARY, SALARIES & WAGES to AIRPORT, CAPITAL OUTLAY (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$23,000.00 from LIBRARY, SALARIES & WAGES to AIRPORT, CAPITAL OUTLAY. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$15,994.00 from SOLICITORS, SALARIES & WAGES to ELECTIONS, SALARIES & WAGES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

Maria Tomasia, Election Commissioner was present, addressed the Committee and answered questions. Ms. Tomasia stated that the transfer was mostly due to increases in wages, as well as paying one employee, unemployment for a short period of time.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$15,994.00 from SOLICITORS, SALARIES & WAGES to ELECTIONS, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$5,975.00 from SOLICITORS, SALARIES & WAGES to ELECTIONS, CHARGES & SERVICES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$5,975.00 from SOLICITORS, SALARIES & WAGES to ELECTIONS, CHARGES & SERVICES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$13,000.00 from PUBLIC FACILITIES, CHARGES & SERVICES to EMS, CHARGES & SERVICES. (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$13,000.00 from PUBLIC FACILITIES, CHARGES & SERVICES to EMS, CHARGES & SERVICES. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 3, Nays 3 (Councillors DeMedeiros, Morad and Saunders)

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$2,000.00 from ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, SALARIES & WAGES to EMS, CHARGES & SERVICES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$2,000.00 from ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, SALARIES & WAGES to EMS, Charges & Services. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 3 (Councillors DeMedeiros, Morad and Saunders opposed.)

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$53,000.00 from INSPECTIONAL SERVICES, SALARIES & WAGES to MIS, CAPITAL OUTLAY (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$53,000.00 from INSPECTIONAL SERVICES, SALARIES & WAGES to MIS, CAPITAL OUTLAY. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$25,000.00 from DPI/WASTEWATER, CHARGES & SERVICES to DPI/WASTEWATER, SALARIES & WAGES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$25,000.00 from DPI/WASTEWATER, CHARGES & SERVICES to DPI/WASTEWATER, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$10,000.00 from PURCHASING, SALARIES & WAGES to PUBLIC FACILITIES, SALARIES & WAGES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$10,000.00 from PURCHASING, SALARIES & WAGES to PUBLIC FACILITIES, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting an ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$10,000.00 from TREASURERS, SALARIES & WAGES to PUBLIC FACILITIES, SALARIES & WAGES (Ref'd 5/24/07) was received and placed on file.

On motion, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$10,000.00 from TREASURERS, SALARIES & WAGES to PUBLIC FACILITIES, SALARIES & WAGES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:19 p.m.

ATTEST: